tional Wastelands Development Board to control spread of arid zones and deserts.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Indo-Soviet Trade

*134. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target fixed for the year 1987-88 in respect of Indo-Soviet trade;

(b) whether the target was achieved or whether there was any shortfall; and

(c) what steps are being taken to increase the volume of trade between India and the U.S.S.R.?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c) Trade Plans for Indian exports to and imports from USSR are drawn up on a calender year basis. The targetted Indo-Soviet trade turnover for 1987 was Rs. 3800 crores and the actual implementation is assessed to have crossed the target by about 18 per cent. The target for 1988 has been fixed at Rs. 5000 crores. Efforts are being made from both sides to achieve the target.

A series of steps have been initiated to increase the volume of trade between the two countries. These include expansion and diversification of items included in the trade basket, setting up of a group to study the mattter of diversification of structure of trade and economic cooperation, participation in trade fairs, organisation of specialised exhibitions, conducting studies and market surveys for promotion of trade, identification by DGTD of possible areas for import of technology, conclusion of an Inter-Governmental Agreement to promote new forms of cooperation such as joint ventures, production cooperation, cooperation in the services sector, improving institutional links at the level of business organisations, etc.

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Narmada Sagar Project

*135. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Narmada Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh is going on as per schedule;

(b) whether Madhya Pradtsh Government has requested the Central Government for financial assistance for the project; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) According to information received from the State Government, the work on the dam, formally started on 19th November, 1987, is proposed to be completed by June, 1996.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The projects in the irrigation sector are funded from State Plan resources. Central Plan Assistance is provided as block grant and loan and is not tied to any specific project. However, this project has been posed to the World Bank for assistance.

Import of Gold

*136. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) How much gold in terms of weight and value is imported into India every year by way of replenishment allowed against export of gold, jewellery since the revised scheme was announced in August, 1985;

(b) what are the details of the jewellery exported after the announcement of the revised scheme and the value thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the main beneficiary of the scheme is the middleman and not the artisan or craftsman and whether it is due to the anomalies in the Gold Control Order; and

(d) if so, what steps are considered to ensure that the artisans or goldsmiths get the benefit out of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Quantity and value of gold purchased by the State Bank of India since August 1985, under the Gold Jewellery Export Promotion and Replenishment Scheme is shown below:

Period	Quantity in KGS	Value (in Rs. crores)
—August 1985 to March 1986	633.727	8.73
—April 1986 to March 1987	1268.869	19.80
—April 1987 to March 1988 (Provisional)	1791.315	39.14

(b) Exports of gold jewellery under this Scheme since August 1985, are given below:

Period	Value (In Rs. crores)
—August 1985 to March 1986	21.27
—April 1986 to March 1987	37.84
—April 1987 to March 1988 (Provisional)	56.45

These figures also include exports of jewellery containing less than 10% gold by value.

(c) and (d) It is expected that the benefit of increased exports of gold jewellery under the Scheme would also percolate down to the goldsmiths and artisans engaged in manufacture of gold jewellery. There is no information or reason to believe that this does not happen.

New Commission for demarcating boundary of Assam with Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya

*137. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a new Commission for the demarcation of boundary of Assam with Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of Government at present.